

REMARKS

Claims 2-4, 6,-8, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, and 18 are all the claims presently pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 14, and 17 have been cancelled without disclaimer of the subject matter therein.

An Examiner's Interview Summary Record (PTOL-413) was provided by the Examiner after the telephonic interview on April 28, 2008.

Claims 1, 5, 9, 12, 14, and 17 are withdrawn as non-elected, but subject to rejoinder pending determination of allowability of generic claims. It is further brought to the Examiner's attention that species are required to be mutually exclusive. The two species identified by the Examiner can clearly be used together. Applicant also does not agree with the Examiner characterization of which claims are generic, even if the two species were considered appropriate, since claim 1 also applies to either or both species. However, to speed prosecution, Applicant has agreed to cancel these claims.

Applicant submits this Statement to comply with the requirements of M.P.E.P. 713.04.

In the interview, the following was discussed:

A. Identification of claims discussed:

Claims 2 and 6.

B. Identification of prior art discussed:

Luke (U.S. Patent No. 7,130,867)

Hillhouse (U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0154793)

C. Identification of principal proposed amendments:

Applicant suggested an amendment that recited tracking changes in fingerprint data with low general similarities. The Examiner was skeptical that such a claim would overcome the Hillhouse reference.

D. Brief Identification of principal arguments:

Applicant submitted that in the Advisory Action, the Examiner improperly applied *In re Keller* with respect to Applicant's argument that Luke did not make up for Hillhouse's admitted deficiencies. In response, the Examiner alleged that Luke is only recited to teach deleting duplicates files, which are a "higher form of general similarity."

Applicant submitted that Hillhouse did not teach or suggest "deletion means for deleting the fingerprint data having a general similarity that is highest among the pieces of fingerprint data registered," because the resulting tracking of fingerprints of low general similarity of a user does not occur. In particular, Applicant submitted that Hillhouse taught "reregistering" users with changing fingerprints. In response, the Examiner alleged that Hillhouse taught or suggested nearly every element of the claimed invention and that it would be obvious to delete duplicate files. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that he believed that Hillhouse taught the ability to track changing fingerprints as well.

Finally, Applicant proposed a hypothetical claim towards tracking fingerprints with low general similarity. In response, the Examiner alleged that tracking low general similarity was irrelevant.

E. Results of the Interview:

No agreement was reached regarding patentability of the claimed invention.

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F. Conclusion:

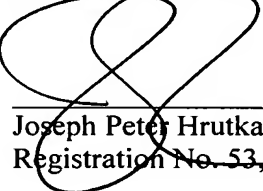
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Should the Examiner find the application to be other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below to discuss any other changes deemed necessary in a telephonic or personal interview.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in fees or to credit any overpayment in fees to Attorney's Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Date: 9/29/8
McGinn IP Law Group, PLLC
8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200
Vienna, VA 22182-3817
(703) 761-4100
Customer No. 21254

Respectfully Submitted,



Joseph Peter Hrutka, Esq.
Registration No. 53,918

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.
Registration No. 34,386